



Borough of Harrington Park
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**ORDINANCE CONCERNING FALSE FIRE ALARMS
BOROUGH OF HARRINGTON PARK
Proposed ORDINANCE # 701**

WHEREAS, the Harrington Park Fire Department is charged with responsibility to protect the lives and property of the citizenry of the Borough of Harrington Park,

WHEREAS, the ability to provide life and property firefighting services is greatly hampered by the response of the Harrington Park Fire Department to alarms that are unnecessary and false,

WHEREAS, it has been reported that the Harrington Park Fire Department is experiencing an inordinate amount of "false fire alarm" notifications,

WHEREAS, The Mayor & Council have determined that procedures must be adopted to address these "false fire alarms" by requiring owners of property to assure that their alarm systems are constantly monitored and repaired,

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall in no way modify those "false alarms" deliberately made by any individual or entity and as otherwise specifically addressed by any other New Jersey statute, rule or regulation, which carries its own predicate fines and penalties,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Borough of Harrington Park hereby adopts, ratifies and confirms the language written below and referred to as "Ordinance concerning False Fire Alarms"

Excessive False Fire Alarm Fines

- A. A false fire alarm shall be any transmission, either directly or indirectly, to the Harrington Park Fire Department of any automatic fire alarm, smoke alarm, carbon monoxide alarm, fire sprinkler water flow alarm, which was not caused by an actual fire, smoke condition, or other condition requiring the response of the Harrington Park Fire Department.
- B. The Harrington Park Fire Department shall investigate and determine the cause of any false alarm, as it is defined in this section, and shall maintain a list of all false alarms. Said list shall identify the location of each false alarm, the number of false alarms at the location, and the reason for the false alarm.
- C. Upon the determination that a false alarm has occurred, the Fire Chief or his designated representative shall promptly notify the Fire Marshal, who shall issue a violation notice to the alarm user or proprietor advising that all subsequent false alarms shall be a violation of this code subject to an excessive false alarm fine.

- D. An alarm user, at a single site, will receive one free false alarm per year. If the alarm user changes (e.g., sale of business) the new alarm user will receive one free false alarm during the current year.
- E. If it becomes necessary to assess an excessive false alarm fine, the Fire Marshal shall serve upon the user in person or send a penalty notice to the alarm user by mail. The notice shall include:
 - (1) The date, time, and location of the false alarm.
 - (2) The amount of the fine.
- F. Payment of the false alarm fee must be received within 14 calendar days from the date of delivery as listed on the certified mail receipt.
- G. All provisions of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code with respect to the maintenance of fire alarms shall continue to apply.

Violations and Penalties

- A. The following penalties shall apply to false alarms at commercial properties:

False Alarm Number	Fine
1st	WARNING ONLY
2nd	\$200
3rd	\$300
4th	\$500
5th or more	\$1000

These penalties shall reset and start anew on January 1st of each year.

- B. All penalties assessed for violations of this article shall be paid into the Harrington Park Fire Department penalty account.

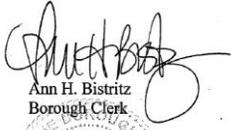
Any provision of this ordinance found to be in conflict with any other law, rule or regulation shall be stricken and all other provisions herein shall survive and remain in full force and effect.

I certify that the within ordinance was approved on second reading on March 21, 2016.

	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Roll Call Vote			YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
NAPOLITANO(AN)	x		x			
EVANELLA (GE)			x			
WALKER (DW)		x	x			
FITZGERALD (LF)			x			
PEDERSEN (JP)			x			
CHUNG (JC)			x			

Certified Copy of an Ordinance approved at the Regular Meeting,
March 21, 2016 of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Harrington Park,

Bergen County, New Jersey.



Ann H. Bistriz
Borough Clerk

